



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Election  
JB  
5/19/02

In re Application of:

Masaharu AMANO et al.

Serial No.: 09/725,314

Filed: November 29, 2000

For: BUCKET TOOTH AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME

**RECEIVED**

FEB 14 2002

**GROUP 3600**

Group Art Unit: 3671

Examiner: Nathan S. MAMMEN

**RESPONSE TO THE RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT  
DATED JANUARY 11, 2002**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: February 11, 2002

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated January 11, 2002.

In the Action, restriction is required among Group (I), claims 1 - 6, drawn to a bucket tooth comprising an axial force fluctuation means; Group (II), claims 7 - 11, drawn to a bucket tooth with a tapered bearing surface; or Group (III), claims 12-15, drawn to a method for manufacturing a warped bucket tooth.

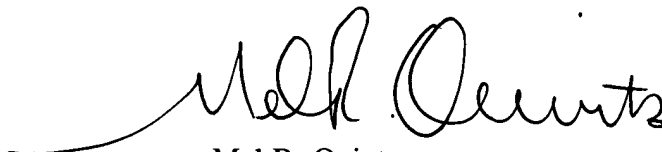
Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of Group (I), claims 1-6 for prosecution in this application. This election is made without traverse, it being understood that the applicants right to the filing of Divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 USC §120 and 35 USC §121 are retained.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

In the event any additional fees are required in connection with this response, please charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mel R. Quintos', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Mel R. Quintos  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No. 31,898

Atty. Docket No. 001337

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MRQ:lrj